

City Attorney

CRIMINAL DIVISION MISDEMEANOR PROSECUTION

April 14, 2005

Criminal Division Staff

60 Attorneys

11 Investigators

89 Support Staff



WORKLOAD

45,000 Cases screened 35,000 Cases issued

TYPES OF MISDEMEANOR CASES

- Consumer
- Environment
- Zoning & Building Code Violations
- Illegal Street Racing
- Driving Under the Influence (DUI)
- Gang Violence
- Theft

TYPES OF MISDEMEANOR CASES

- Quality of Life Crimes
- Child Abuse
- Domestic Violence
- Sex Offenses
- Sex Offender Registration Violations
- Prostitution

CRIMINAL DIVISION UNITS

- General Trial
- Issuing & Arraignment
- Proposition 36: Drug Court
- Dispute Resolution
- Appellate



CRIMINAL DIVISION SPECIALIZED UNITS

- Public Integrity
- Drug Abuse Response Team (DART)
- Neighborhood Prosecution
- Code Enforcement

CRIMINAL DIVISION SPECIALIZED UNITS

- Domestic Violence, Child Abuse & Sex Crimes
- Consumer & Environmental Protection
- San Diego Traffic Offenders Program (STOP)



Neighborhood Prosecution Unit

Angie Reddish-Day

April 14, 2005

Neighborhood Prosecution Unit



The Neighborhood Prosecution Unit of the San Diego City Attorney's Office works in partnership with the San Diego Police Department, other agencies, and the community to aggressively and creatively combat crimes that impact quality of life

Problem-Oriented Prosecutors in Your Neighborhood

- Established in 1997 to work in partnership with community members and police officers on developing long-term solutions to neighborhood crime problems
- Five neighborhood prosecutors are assigned to work in more than 25 San Diego neighborhoods in Central, Mid-City, Northern, and Western Divisions
- Two assigned San Diego Police Officers & several additional liaison officers working on problem-oriented policing projects (SIP, HOT)

- San Diego Police Department
- San Diego City Council Offices
- Mayor Dick Murphy's Staff
- Neighborhood Code Compliance
- SDPD Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)
- PERT
- SART/SARB
- California Dept. of Environmental Health
- Cal Trans

- City Traffic Engineering
- City Planning
- City Environmental Services
- City Park and Recreation
- City Community Service Center Staff
- County Health and Human Services
- Mid-City for Youth
- Family Health Services
- Home Start
- SAY San Diego

- San Diego Rescue Mission
- Salvation Army
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Vietnam Veterans of San Diego
- California Corrections Dept., Parole Division
- California Alcoholic Beverage Control
- San Diegans United for Safe Neighborhoods



- Safe Streets Now
- Downtown San Diego Partnership
- Clean & Safe Program
- Neighborhood Associations
- Community Councils
- Business Improvement Districts

Neighborhood Prosecution Unit Activities

- Problem-Solving Training & Lineups
- Liaison & Prosecutorial Resource to SDPD & Community
- Established Offices at Area Commands
- Participate in Police Problem-Solving and other Community Meetings, Events, & Presentations



Prosecute Quality-of-Life Crimes

- Misdemeanor
 - Vandalism/Graffiti
 - Prostitution
 - Loitering With Specific Intent (Prostitution/Narcotics Activity)
 - Drunk in Public/Under the Influence Drugs
 - Transient Crimes/Transient Camps
 - Pushcart Vendors
 - Disturbing the Peace

Neighborhood Prosecutors Problem-Solving in Targeted Areas

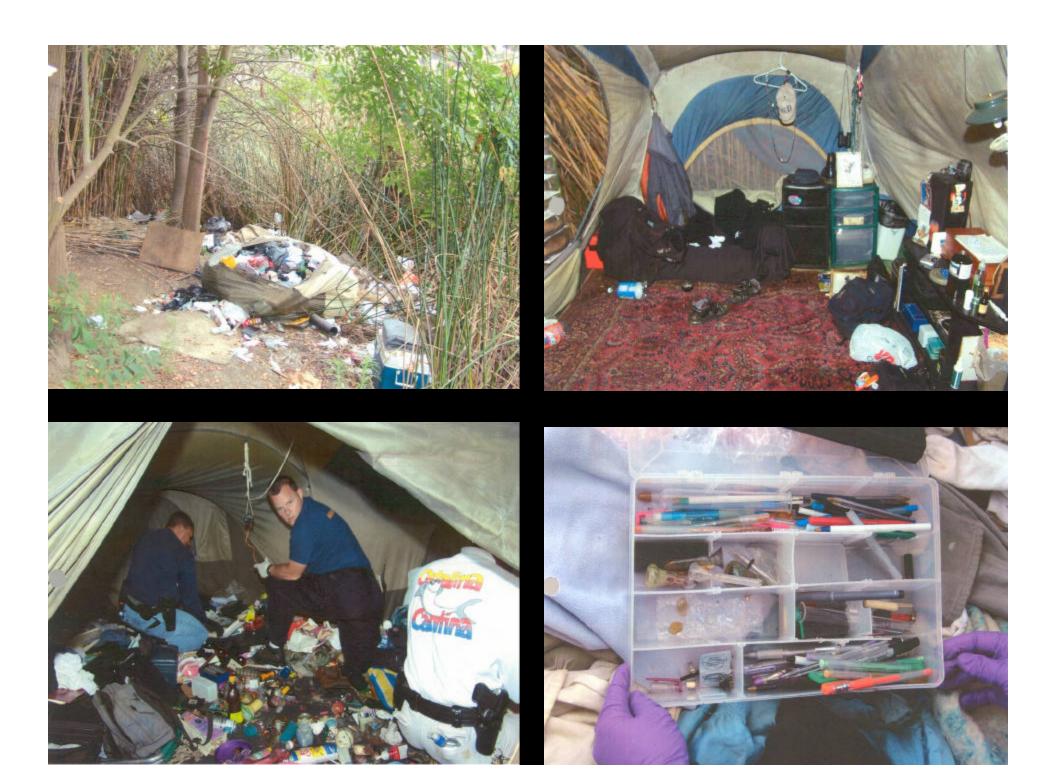
- Prosecution of Problem-Oriented Policing Projects
 - Illegal Lodging in the San Diego Riverbed & Downtown
 - C Street Project
 - Prostitution on El Cajon Blvd
 - Loud Parties/Underage Drinking in College & Beach areas
- Chronic & Repeat Offenders/ Problem Offenses
 - Serial Inebriate Program (SIP)
 - Officer Notification System (ONS) and Stay Away Orders
- Community Development Projects & Outreach
 - Stockton Tunnel
 - Graffiti Removal
 - Juveniles and Justice Program
- Drafting Ordinances to Solve Problems



San Diego Riverbed Mission Valley

- Environmentally sensitive riverbed from the San Diego River to the Pacific Ocean
- Neighborhood Prosecutors work with the San Diego Police Department to clean up transient encampments and vertically prosecute cases originating from these locations.
- Defendants ordered to stay away upon conviction
- Enforcement/Clean-up effort: Neighborhood Prosecution Unit, SDPD, and the San Diego River Foundation





Community-Based Solutions

Stand Down
 Annual collaborative homeless court event specifically addressing the needs of military veterans living on the streets.



Homeless Court

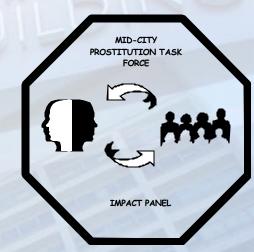
In partnership with the Office of the Public Defender and the San Diego Superior Court, the City Attorney's Office participates in this monthly court held at a local homeless shelter to assist offenders who are participating in rehabilitative programs clear their misdemeanor warrants and get a new start.



Community-Based Solutions

 Mid-City Prostitution Task Force:

A community-based and community-driven task force established in October 2000 to reduce prostitution in Mid-City by providing education and alternatives to offenders.



Prostitution Impact Panel:
 Implemented in January 2002, this monthly panel educates "john" offenders – men who solicit or agree to engage in sex for money – about the farreaching impact of prostitution activity and why prostitution is NOT a victimless crime.





Community-Oriented Criminal Justice

Community Courts in San Diego





Mid-City Community Court



Community Courts Shared Principles

- Accountability of offenders to community victimized by quality-of-life crimes
- Proactive intervention to stop chronic criminal conduct
- Direct involvement of the community in the criminal justice process



Community Court Partners

- San Diego City Attorney's Office
- San Diego Police Department
- Criminal Justice Agencies
 - Superior Court
 - Public Defender
- Community Organizations
 - Downtown San Diego Partnership
 - Neighborhood Associations, Town Councils, HOA's, and community business groups





- Launched February 2003
- Entire Mid-City Division
- Pre-Filing Model
- Sanctioning Panel
- Administrative Fees
- Corrective Behavior Institute
- Quarterly Advisory Board



- Launched October 2002
- Central Division 520's Service Area
- Post-Filing Model
- Superior Court
- Court Fines
- Clean and Safe Program
- Bi-monthly Advisory Board

City Attorney



Mid-City Community Court Quality-of-Life Crimes

- Vandalism
- Graffiti
- Prostitution
- Disturbing the Peace/Noise
- Possession of Marijuana
- San Diego Municipal Code Violations



Mid-City Community Court



Mid-City Community Court

- Statistics (2/03-3/05)
 - -205 Offenders
 - 81% Compliant
 - -54 Community Court Session held
 - -1700 Community Work Service Hours
 - –98 Referrals to educational and preventative programs
 - -\$28,000 fines/fees imposed

Downtown Community Court Quality-of-Life Crimes

- Disturbing the Peace
- Drinking in Public
- Petty Theft
- Possession of Marijuana
- Select Ballpark Codes
- Trespass
- Urinating in Public
- Vandalism/Graffiti



Downtown Community Court

- Statistics (10/02-3/05)
 - -139 Offenders
 - 89% Compliance
 - -1600 Community Work Service Hours
 - -21 Referrals to social services
 - -82 Dismissed Cases



Restorative Justice









CLEAN AND SAFE DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO PARTNERSHIP



Neighborhood Prosecution Unit Meeting Measurable Goals

- Improving quality of life in targeted neighborhoods;
- Building meaningful partnerships to proactively and creatively solve community crime problems;
- Expanding the prosecutorial tools to more effectively address neighborhood quality-of-life crime priorities; and
- Holding misdemeanor offenders accountable in the criminal justice system and to the community that has been harmed by quality-of-life crimes.



The Community Benefits

- Long-standing relationships and partnerships
- Open line of communication between the City Attorney's Office and the communities that we serve
- A community voice in the criminal justice system
- Tremendous Community Support





San Diego Traffic Offenders Program (STOP)

Linda Peter Deputy City Attorney

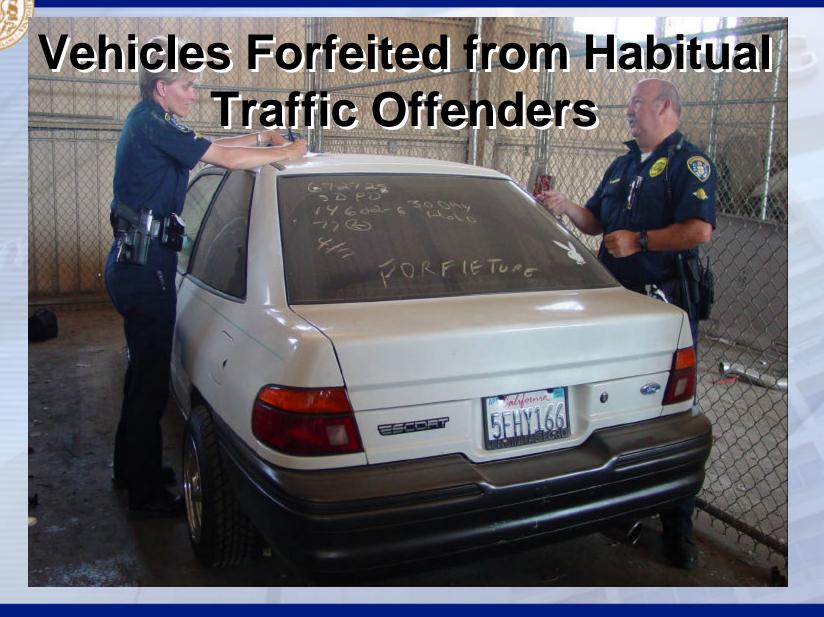
April 14, 2004

STOP PROGRAM

- Partnership between SDPD and the City Attorney's Office
- Team of Officers with one Sergeant focus full time on habitual traffic offenders
- CY 2004, 8,529 cases issued; 72% from SDPD
- Train and assist other officers on driver's license offenses and enforcement

VEHICLE FORFEITURES

- Authorized by state law
- CY 2004, 138 vehicles forfeited
 To date (1997 through April 2005) 1,195 vehicles forfeited
- FY 2005 (July 04 through March 16, 2005)
 - \$24,290 revenue to city's general fund
- FY 2004, \$97,833 to city's general fund



ILLEGAL STREET RACING

CY 2004, 58 cases prosecuted
Contrast: 290 cases in 2001
155 cases in 2002; 60 cases in 2003

 Zero deaths, 4 injuries during CY 2004 (city streets)

Contrast: 8 deaths, 16 injuries in 2002 1 death, 2 injuries in 2003



CITY'S PROACTIVE MEASURES

- Spectator Ordinance, October 2002
- Vehicle Forfeiture Ordinance, April 2003
- Spectator Ordinance upheld on appeal, March 2004

Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit

Cindy Davis
Head Deputy City Attorney

April 14, 2005

City Attorney's Office Charges Business Owner with Environmental Crimes



Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit



Who We Are and What We Do

- Founded in 1972
- 4 Attorneys, 2.5 Investigators, 2 Staff
- In 2004:
 - Filed over 125 cases
 - Handled over 450 consumer complaints and 2,000 calls
 - Over \$339,000 in restitution to consumers
 - Over \$600,000 in Civil Costs
 - Over \$ 1.3 million in Civil Penalties
 - Over \$1.1 million in for national consumer victims



Environmental Successes

- Prosecuted Grant Hill metal plating shop for dumping hazardous waste into City sewers
- Illegal asbestos removal contractor ordered to publish consumer warnings
- Prosecuted boat marine contractor polluting San Diego Bay
- Screened 180 complaints for Storm Water Prevention Program



- False Advertising
- Fraud and Unfair Business Practices
- Unlicensed Contractors / Professionals
- Internet Fraud / Identity Theft
- Illegal Slot Machines and Car Dealers
- Adulterated Food
- Tobacco Control
- Pawn Brokers / Second Hand Dealers

Consumer Protection Successes

- People v. Pacific Beach Portraits
 - Wedding photographer sentenced to jail and ordered to pay over\$49,000 in restitution to 61 newlywed couples
- Operation "Legal Limo"
 - Successful prosecution of illegal unlicensed limousine operators in downtown San Diego
- People v. John "Vinny" Johnson
 - Television repair scammer sent back to jail for 7 years for ripping off over 120 San Diego consumers



- People v. Walmart and Walgreens
 - Illegal sales of AbEnergizer
- People v. Macy's West
 - Scanner violations rebates to consumers
- People v. BP Arco
 - Violations of Underground Storage Tank Regulations
- People v. Rite Aid
 - Advertising violations expired products and pricing



Environmental Protection Prosecutions

- Storm Water Violations
- Illegal Dumping



- Hazardous Waste Violations
- Air Pollution Violations





Environmental Successes

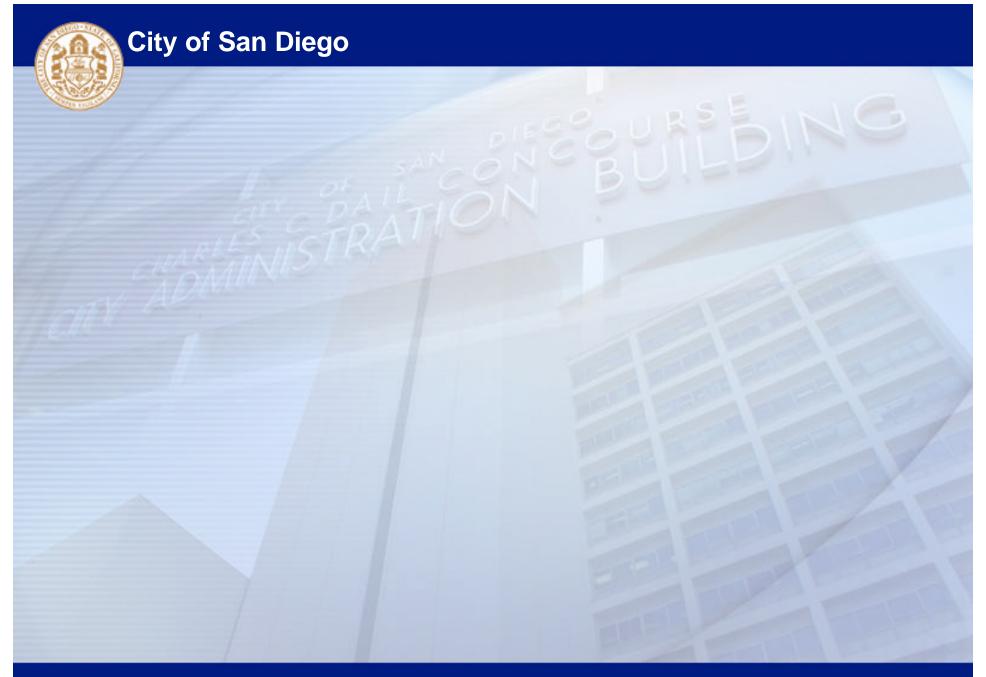
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Multi Jurisdictional Consumer Prosecution Successes

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Code Enforcement Unit (CEU)

Diane Silva-Martinez
Head Deputy City Attorney

April 14, 2005





Code Enforcement Unit

- Created in 1984
- The first proactive effort to address blight and community needs (Council District 4)
- Key = Partnerships with community and Police combined with aggressive judicial actions





Broken Window Theory

Blight Breeds Crime In Neighborhoods

Drug Activity

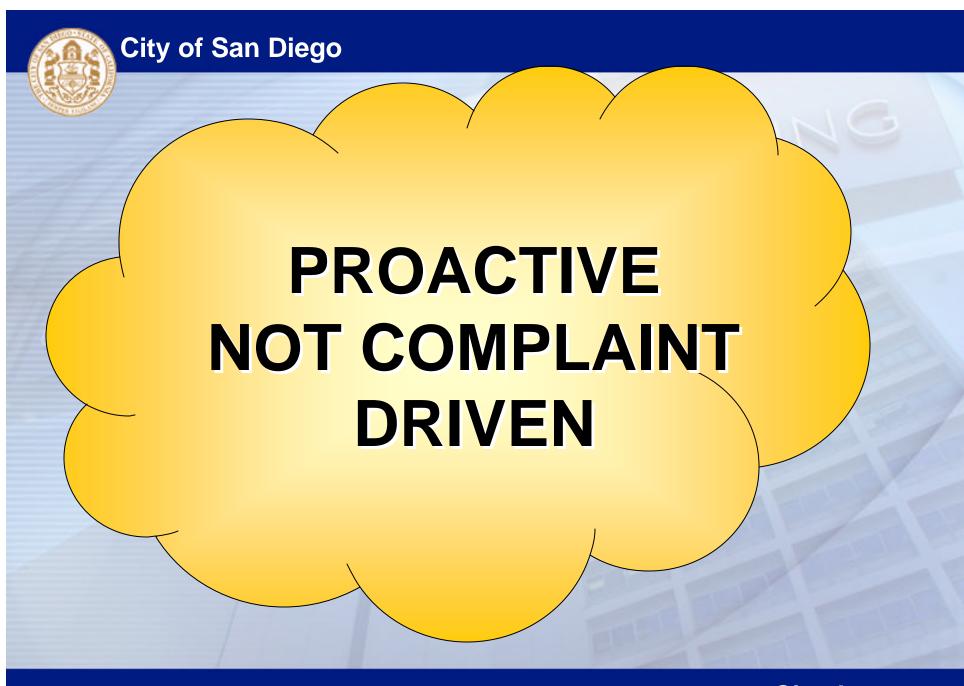
Prostitution

Vandalism

Graffiti

Transient Activity

Tells Crime To "Come On In"



Purpose of Partnership Meetings

- Discuss Problem Properties
- Address Community Needs
- Brainstorm/Create Game Plan
- Achieve Timely Results

CEU Embraces Community Prosecution Philosophy

- Prosecutor is problemsolver who works closely with police, community
- Bring all resources to solve the problem (long-term solutions)

CREATIVE PROSECUTION

- CEU uses a variety of legal remedies (civil, criminal prosecution, administrative remedies)
- Creative legal strategies
- Comprehensive approach
- Long term results

VIOLATIONS PROSECUTED BY CEU

- Public Nuisance Violations
- Substandard Housing
- Lead Hazards
- Building Violations
- Zoning Violations--Illegal Businesses/Uses
- Vacant and Abandoned Structures

VIOLATIONS PROSECUTED BY CEU

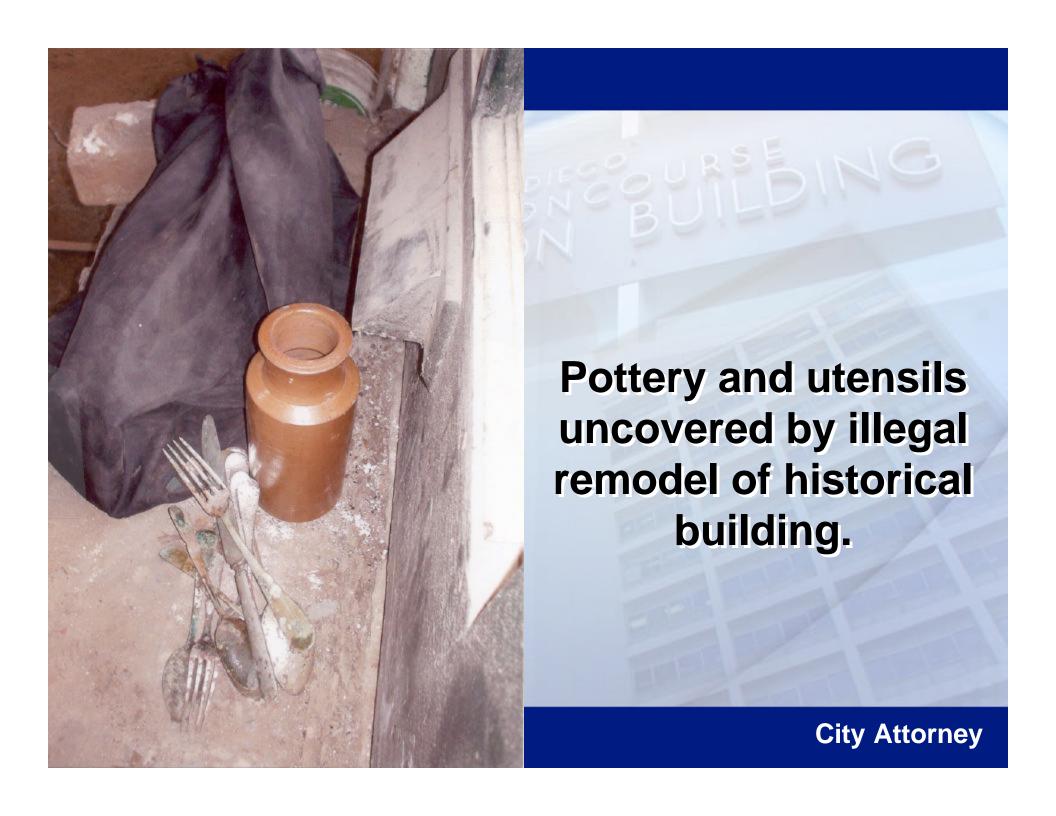
- Water Theft
- Fire Hazards
- Storage and Waste Violations
- Destruction of Environmentally Sensitive Land--Illegal Grading

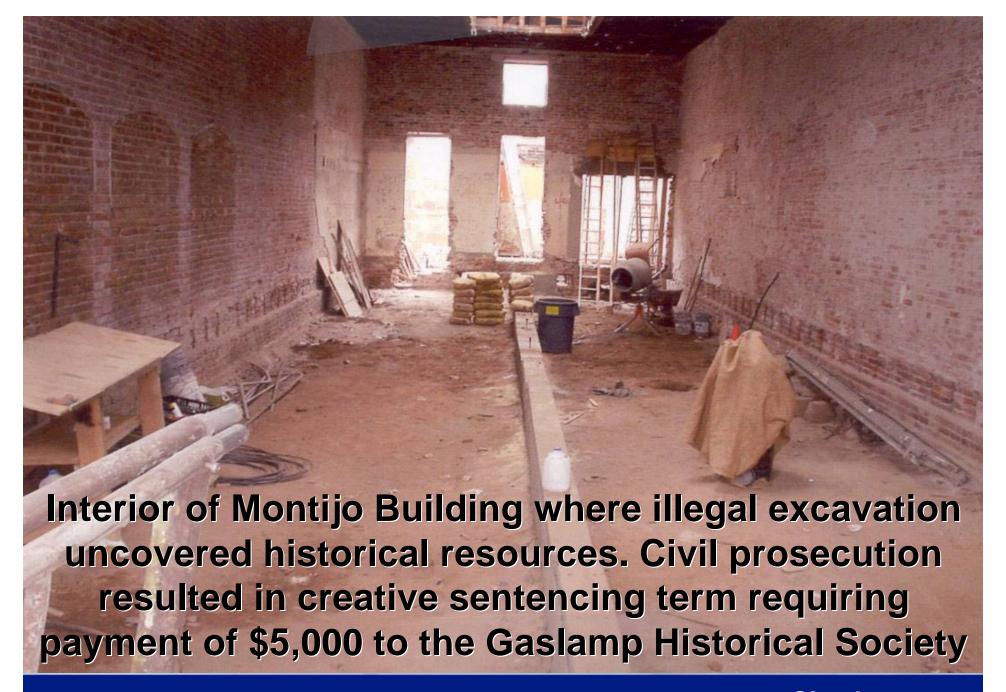
VIOLATIONS PROSECUTED BY CEU

- Destruction of Historical Resources
- Miscellaneous Land Use Violations e.g., Erosion Control, Vernal Pools, Encroachments
- Health Violations

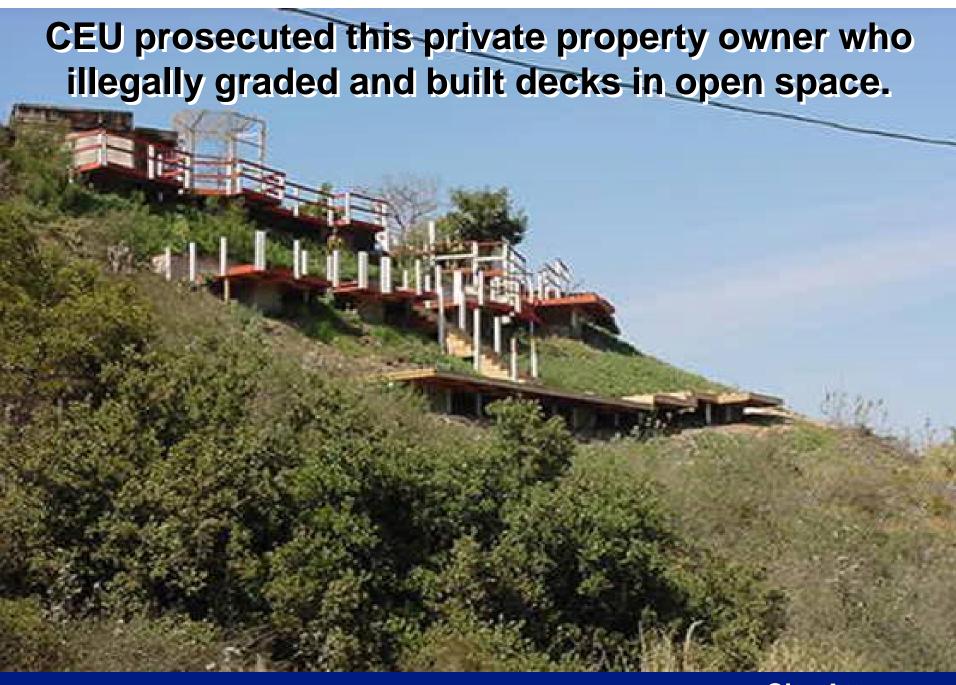


Code Enforcement
Unit civilly
prosecuted
commercial tenants
of this downtown
historical building for
allowing unauthorized
construction.











Continual Training of City Departments and Code Enforcement Personnel

RECENT SUCCESSFUL CASES Water Theft

- People v. RCG Carmel County
 Associates --Developer of luxury
 apartments illegally hooked up to city water
 supply. Civil settlement required payment of
 \$23,516 in civil penalties and investigative
 costs and \$21,483 in restitution to the City.
- People v. Del Mar Development -Commercial developer used City water
 without water meters. Civil settlement
 required payment of \$9,460 in civil penalties,
 \$5,000 in investigative costs and \$540 in
 restitution.



RECENT SUCCESSFUL CASES

People v. Mark Allan Funding-developer demolished a historical
structure in Sherman Heights without prior
permits or authorization. Civil prosecution
resulted in \$35,000 fine, recovery of
investigative costs, and \$10,000 donation
to the Sherman Heights Community
Center as restorative justice.

RECENT SUCCESSFUL CASES

 People v. Stratton-- Property owner subdivided an old fire station into illegal housing units which were rented out to mostly low-income tenants. Building and Health and Safety violations were rampant. Civil prosecution resulted in \$10,000 in civil penalties; \$5,346 in investigative costs and a \$7,000 donation to the San Diego Police Foundation to be used in support of their Serial Inebriate Program. The rehabilitation of the property is well underway.



Substandard house on Imperial Avenue. Tenants relocated. Property now being rehabilitated per Court Order.



TYPICAL CONDITIONS FOUND IN NUISANCE PROPERTIES

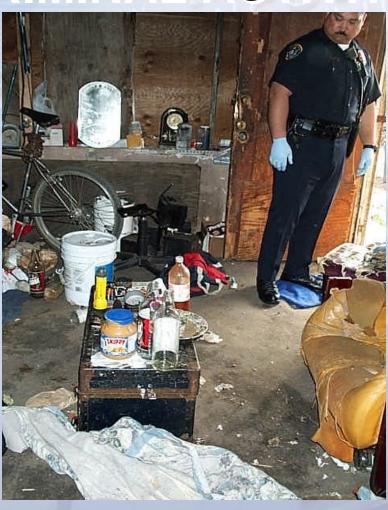


TRANSIENTS





CRIMINAL ACTIVITY



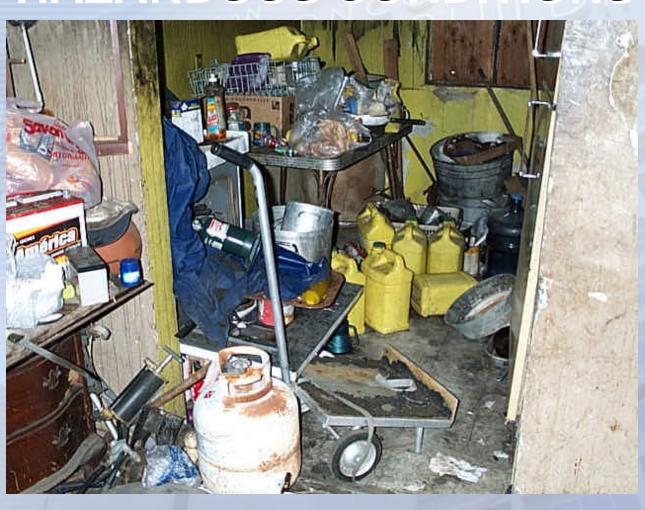


UNSANITARY CONDITIONS





HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS







Code Enforcement Unit filed a civil action against the owner of this public nuisance property. Court Order requires timely rehabilitation.

City Attorney



SUCCESSFUL CASES PROSECUTED BY CEU



Before

Vacant property successfully rehabilitated through CEU prosecution



After



Before

Another successful CEU prosecution of a vacant property. San Diego Vacant Properties Program has become a national model.



After



Prevention Strategies

- Proactive Community Oriented programs for low-income residents
 - Early code enforcement intervention
 - housing repair by non-profits
 - grants for rehab
 - education
- City programs
 - neighborhood clean-ups
 - fix-it/paint-it campaigns
- Volunteers

Aggressive Prosecution Results in

- Creative Sentencing
 - restorative justice = repair harm to the community
- High Fines
- Recovery of Investigative Costs
- Accountability

Since July 1, 2004 CEU has recovered

- \$97, 491 in civil penalties
- \$1,500 in criminal fines
- \$16,747 in investigative costs
- \$56,844 in restitution



Code Enforcement Unit

- National and State model for innovative approaches and aggressive prosecution
- Awarded \$400,000 state grant in 2001 to 2004 for substandard housing enforcement in Council District 8
- This fiscal year received \$127,000 at the recommendation of the Affordable Housing Task Force

PROACTIVE CODE ENFORCEMENT RESULTS IN

- Community Pride
- Decrease in Crime
- Increase in Public Safety
- Economic Development
- Increase in Property Values
- Better Quality of Life for our Neighborhoods

Drug Abatement Response Team (DART)

Makini Hammond Head Deputy City Attorney



DART community prosecutors are partners with San Diego Police Department (SDPD) and the Neighborhood Code Department (NCCD) as the core of the City 's Civil Nuisance Abatement Task Force- DART.

Public Safety Prosecution Protecting San Diego's Quality of Life





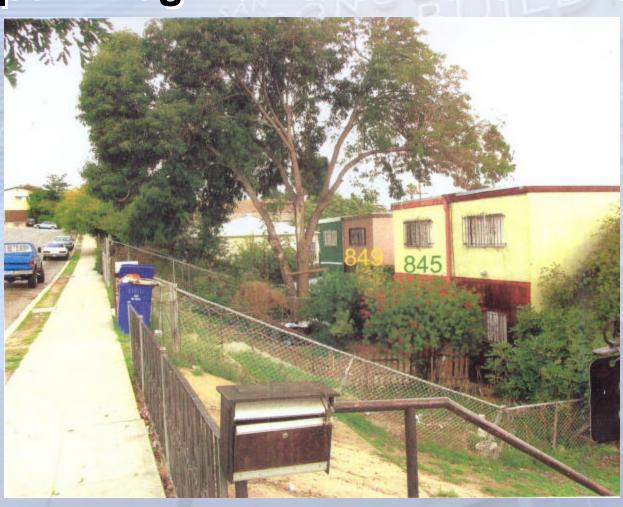
City Attorney's new DART Unit

- In January 2005 DART became a stand alone unit within the City Attorney's Office.
- In 2004 DART prosecutors had a caseload of over 100 abatement cases.
- DART prosecutors have recently expanded their scope of work to include Gang and Vice Unit cases as well as the Narcotic Unit.

Community Nuisances that are Addressed by DART's Civil Nuisance Abatement Actions

- Drug Houses/Apartments/Businesses
- Gang Properties or Territories
- Prostitution
- Vice or Alcohol-related Nuisances (Bars, Nightclubs)
- Public Nuisance properties

DART Prosecutors and Gang Unit Eradicated Open Drug Market on Raven Street



DART Prosecutors filed the City's first gang abatement case in 1998 and added new gang members to it in 2004





BENEFITS TO COMMUNITIES OF NUISANCE ABATEMENTS

- NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION THROUGH:
 - -Neighborhood Empowerment
 - -Rebuilding of Community Controls
 - Promotion of Community Investment and Economic Development

Methods the Community Uses to Refer Nuisance Properties to DART

- Complaints to the SDPD
- Community Problem Solving Meetings
- Neighborhood Policing
- Neighborhood Watches/Community Councils/Citizen Patrols
- City Council Offices
- City Attorney's Office-DART Unit

Domestic Violence & Child Abuse Unit (DV)

Timothy Campen Head Deputy City Attorney

April 14, 2005





DV Unit – Prosecution Cases

- Domestic Violence
- Same Sex Domestic Violence
- Child Abuse
- Elder Abuse
- Stalking
- Sex Crimes



DV Unit – DV-Related Charges

- Spousal Battery with Injury
- Domestic Violence Battery
- Criminal Threats
- Assault with a Deadly Weapon
- False Imprisonment
- Dissuading Witness from Calling Police
- Restraining Order Violation
- Child Endangerment
- Vandalism

DV Unit – Specialty Case Charges

- Child Abuse/Endangerment
- Child Molestation
- Possession of Child Pornography
- Elder Abuse
- Stalking/Restraining Order Violation
- Sexual Battery
- Lewd Conduct in Public
- Sex Offender Registration Violation



DV Unit Staff

- 11 Deputy City Attorneys
- 3 Investigators
- 3 Victim Advocates
- 2 Legal Secretaries
- 7 Support Staff



DV Unit - Operations

- True Vertical Prosecution
 - Defendant stays with assigned prosecutor forever
 - Screening and Charging
 - Negotiations
 - Case Preparation and Discovery
 - Pre-Trial Motions
 - Trial
 - Post Conviction Hearings and Probation Violations
 - Recidivism / New Cases
- Victim stays with one prosecutor
- Specially trained prosecutors



DV Unit – Challenging Cases

- Most victims are uncooperative
- Often involve family law matters
 - Divorce, child custody
- Involve life and death issues
- Battle myths about DV

DV Unit - Philosophy

- Treat domestic violence as a public offense, and not a private matter
- Get involved at the earliest stages of violence to prevent escalation
- Use the criminal justice system to change abusive behavior, and promote healthy relationships and families
- Protect victim safety, while holding batterers accountable for their actions

DV Unit - Prosecution

- 90% of all DV cases in San Diego are misdemeanors
- Leader in "Evidence-Based Prosecution"
 - Train other prosecutors around the country
 - Contacted weekly for advice
- "Coordinated Community Response"
- Put victim safety as primary concern
- Hold batterers accountable

City of San Diego

DV Unit Saves Lives

- Aggressive, comprehensive, and early prosecution of DV cases reduces violence escalation and homicides in San Diego
 - Mid-1980's average 30 DV homicides per year
 - -2002 9 DV homicides
 - -2003 7 DV homicides
 - -2004 6 DV homicides
 - -2005 0 DV homicides as of April 14

City of San Diego

Domestic Violence Homicides, Aiming for Zero





DV Unit – Family Justice Center

•DV Unit is fundamental component of the Family Justice Center

- Work closely with SDPD's DV Unit
- National model
 - President's \$20 million initiative
 - Efforts to duplicate throughout the nation





Unanimous Support



City of San Diego

DV Unit – Outreach & Affiliations

- Law enforcement training
- Regional and national training
- SDPD Child Abuse Unit line-up
- SDPD Sexual Assault Unit line-up
- DV Court
- Family Court retraining orders
- United States Navy and Marines
- ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children)
- DV Council
- Battered Women's Justice Project
- Elder Death Review
- Elder Abuse Council
- SAFE (Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement)









DV Unit - Prevention Efforts

- Teen Court
 - Teen diversion program
- Teen Relationship Violence
- Parenting Project
- SARB
- Community
 Presentations
- Media Requests



April 14, 2005



Public Integrity Unit

- Investigates and conducts misdemeanor prosecutions
 - Misuse of official positions and public resources
 - Public ethics violations
 - Election fraud violations
- Works with City Ethics Commission, County Grand Jury, United States Attorney, Attorney General, District Attorney



Present Misdemeanor Staffing

Rupert Linley
Assistant City Attorney

April 14, 2005

Present Misdemeanor Staffing

STRA!	City	DA
General/ DV	44	28
Neighborhood Prosecution	5	0
Consumer/Environmental	4	2
DART	2	2
Code Enforcement	5	0
STOP	1	0
Public Integrity	1	0
Total	62	32



Per Deputy Maximum Caseload is 950 cases per year

Present total caseload

City 45,000/ year



DA 26,800/ year

District Attorney's Proposal

35 deputies: If all they did were general crimes, they could handle only 75% of the City's caseload. One in every four defendants would have to be released by the police and CHP.

The DA would have to DISBAND all these special units

- Code Enforcement
- Neighborhood prosecution
- Public Integrity
- STOP
- Consumer/Environmental
- DART

Costs

City DA \$75,000 per employee \$110,000 per employee

46% higher for County

Bottom Line:

The District Attorney's proposal, even if the quality of our services were the same, would be roughly half of the service for almost the same costs

City of San Diego

In 1953, the voters of the City of San Diego adopted Proposition F which added section 40.1 to the City Charters. Section 40.1 reads:

The City SHALL have concurrent jurisdiction with the District Attorney of the County of San Diego to prosecute persons charged with or guilty of the violation of the state laws occurring within the city limits of The City of San Diego for offenses constituting misdemeanors. [Emphasis added.]

The Charter reflects the express will of the voters that the City Attorney prosecute misdemeanors within the city limits. Only a vote of the people can remove that authority from the City Attorney.